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We Claim:

1. An article comprising a wear resistant coating applied to a cemented carbide body wherein:

the cemented carbide body comprises WC with an average grain size of  
 5 0.5-4  $\mu\text{m}$ , 3.5 - 9 wt-% Co and <2 wt% carbides of Ta, Ti and Nb, said body  
 further comprising a core containing finely distributed eta phase islands with a size  
 of 1-15  $\mu\text{m}$ , the core containing 10 - 35 vol-% WC and Co binder phase, said  
 body further comprising an intermediate zone 50-250  $\mu\text{m}$  thick and is essentially  
 free of eta phase and with nominal Co-content, said body further comprising a 0-  
 10 25  $\mu\text{m}$  thick surface zone free of eta phase with a Co content lower than the  
 nominal Co-content of the body;

wherein the binder phase in the intermediate zone comprises a bimodal  
 structure of smaller original binder phase islands and larger binder phase islands.

2. The article of claim 1, wherein the core further comprises gamma  
 15 phase.

3. The article of claim 1, wherein the coating comprises a layer of  
 $\text{TiC}_x\text{N}_y$  where  $x+y=1$ ,  $x > 0.3$  and  $y > 0.3$ , with a thickness of 5-10  $\mu\text{m}$  with  
 columnar grains having a diameter of a size <2  $\mu\text{m}$ .

4. The article of claim 1, wherein the coating comprises at least one  
 20 layer chosen from a smooth  $\alpha\text{-Al}_2\text{O}_3$  and  $\kappa\text{-Al}_2\text{O}_3$  the layer having a grain size of  
 0.5-2  $\mu\text{m}$  with a thickness of 3-6  $\mu\text{m}$ .

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5. The article of claim 1, wherein the coating comprises
- a first, innermost, layer of  $\text{TiC}_x\text{N}_y\text{O}_z$  with  $x+y+z=1$  and  $y>x$  and  $z<0.1$  with a thickness of  $0.1-2\text{ }\mu\text{m}$ , and with equiaxed grains having a size  $<0.5\text{ }\mu\text{m}$ ;
  - 5 - a second layer of  $\text{TiC}_x\text{N}_y$  where  $x+y=1$ ,  $x>0.3$  and  $y>0.3$ , with a thickness of  $5-10\text{ }\mu\text{m}$  with columnar grains having a diameter of a size  $<2\text{ }\mu\text{m}$ ;
  - a third layer of  $\text{TiC}_x\text{N}_y\text{O}_z$  where  $x+y+z=1$ ,  $z<0.5$  and  $x>y$  with a thickness of  $0.1-2\text{ }\mu\text{m}$  and with equiaxed or needle-like grains having a size  $<0.5\text{ }\mu\text{m}$ ;
  - 10 - a fourth layer of smooth  $\alpha\text{-Al}_2\text{O}_3$  having a grain size of  $0.5-2\text{ }\mu\text{m}$  with a thickness of  $3-6\text{ }\mu\text{m}$ ; and finally
  - an outermost layer of  $\text{TiC}_x\text{N}_y\text{O}_z$  where  $x+y+z=1$ ,  $z<0.05$  with a thickness of  $0.5-3\text{ }\mu\text{m}$  and a grain size  $<1\text{ }\mu\text{m}$ .

- 15 6. The article of claim 1, wherein the article comprises a cutting tool insert having at least one cutting edge and a clearance side.

7. The insert of claim 6, wherein the outermost layer is removed along the cutting edge so that the  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  layer is exposed along the cutting edge, and the outer layer of  $\text{TiC}_x\text{N}_y\text{O}_z$  is exposed on the clearance side.

- Sub 20 8. A method of making a coated cemented carbide body, the body comprising a cemented carbide of WC with an average grain size of  $0.5-4\text{ }\mu\text{m}$ ,  $3.5-9\text{ wt-}\%$  Co and  $<2\text{ wt-}\%$  carbides of Ta, Ti and Nb and with a substoichiometric carbon content, the method comprising: sintering the body such that an eta phase containing structure is obtained in which the eta phase is finely distributed with a size of  $1-15\text{ }\mu\text{m}$  and a content of  $10\text{ vol-}\%$  to  $35\text{ vol-}\%$ , and
- 25 subjecting the cemented carbide body to a gentle recarburisation such that the eta

